

S.C. Public Service Commission
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, SC 29210

March 16, 2010

RE: Docket 2009-489-E

To Whom It May Concern:

I am increasingly more concerned each year with the numerous rate hikes that SCE&G continues to ask for and get approval on when the economy is in the state that it is in. I can understand the rate hike if fuel costs sky rocket, but when they come down I also expect to see a decrease of some type as fuel costs fluctuate during the year, but I can't see them asking for the rate hikes for the new plants they want to build when that construction should be held off until the economy stabilizes.


I can't continue to pay \$463.38 for the month of Dec/Jan and then \$318.45 for Jan/Feb and listen to SCE&G say it's "because of the cold weather and your furnace is running constantly and is inefficient", well that isn't exactly the case as I actually used less during the Jan/Feb period this year than last and my bill was higher, why?? Because of the increases that have been approved. I've done as much as I can afford to do to my house to improve my power usage and have done so, by replacing my windows, caulking, replacing light bulbs for the newer more efficient type, etc and yet my bills continue to rise. I am appalled that they actually had the nerve to make a statement like that above, as not everyone's system is inefficient as I maintain mine at least twice per year to insure it is running as efficiently as it can.

I personally haven't received a pay raise other than what is considered a cost of living raise of between 1 and 3% in the past ten years and not in every one of those years either and as a matter of fact I had to take a \$6,000 a year pay cut to keep my position and I see where SCE&G moved into a new \$142 million facility and their CEO makes \$1.75 million base salary per year! That in my opinion in these times is outrageous, I'm sorry no one and I mean no one is worth that type of money professional athletes included. I'd like to ask the S.C. Public Service Commission to ask SCE&G for the salaries of their personnel who make over \$75,000 and see how many of them there are and compare their salaries with the average working person in South Carolina. I understand the CEO has a very important job and keeping stockholders happy is very difficult these days, and of course I realize they are in business to make money, but when you run a monopoly it shouldn't be about making the most money possible it should be about services and improving the ways they do it to keep our costs down. If I had the opportunity to choose another energy provider I think it would make things more interesting, but I have no choice unless I want to live like my ancestors did in the 1800's and use oil lamps and burn coal or wood for heat and cooking!

Something I find very interesting is one of my co-worker's power is provided by one of the Cooperative's and his bill for a house that is larger and older than mine and less efficient per the co-worker is always between \$100-\$125 less than my bill monthly. It's rather amazing to me how 2 people who aren't at home during the week less than 12 hours a day can use that much power at the cost above once we get home.

I urge the S.C. Public Service Commission to be more proactive and work with the people of South Carolina more before approving rate increases of the magnitude requested by SCE&G and deny this request.

Sincerely,



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